

Additional Research Institutions

Massachusetts Archives
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125
617-727-2816

www.sec.state.ma.us/arc

Houses the historical military records of the Massachusetts Adjutant General. This collection is one of the most complete state records of MA servicemen and women from 1775-1940

Massachusetts Adjutant General's Office,
Military Records Branch
50 Maple St., P.O. Box 309
Milford, MA 01757
508-422-1993

massnationalguard.org/military-records-branch.html

Houses military discharge records from 1940-present

National Archives at Boston
380 Trapelo Road
Waltham, MA 02452
781-663-0144

archives.gov/boston/public/military-records-waltham.html

Various military records from the Revolutionary through the Civil Wars, including military service records and pension files

Your Local Government or Cultural Institutions

library and archival collections
local history collections
genealogical societies
museum resources

Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution
VFW resources
American legions



This pamphlet serves as a brief guide to the main resources for historical military research freely available online or housed either at local institutions or at the State Library of Massachusetts.

If you have any questions, please visit or contact the library; our Reference and Special Collections staff are here to assist you with your research needs.

Contact us:

State Library of Massachusetts
Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

Main Library

State House, Room 341
617-727-2590
reference.department@mass.gov

Special Collections Department

State House, Room 55
617-727-2595
special.collections@mass.gov

9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday -- Friday
(Closed all Massachusetts legal holidays)

www.mass.gov/lib



Researching Massachusetts Soldiers



*Sergeant Andrew Jackson Smith
From the Col. Alfred S. Hartwell Papers*

State Library of Massachusetts

State House
Room 341

Online Resources

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System

nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm
An index database of soldiers and sailors who served in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. The database also includes information on regiments, battles, and select prisoner-of-war & cemetery records.

Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors & Marines of the Revolutionary & Civil Wars

Revolutionary War:

archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/122025

Civil War:

archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/50883

Multi-volume sets that contain brief biographical & service information on MA Revolutionary and Civil War soldiers.

Online Veterans and Military Documents

archives.gov/research/military/veterans/online

This resource, provided by the National Archives, includes a variety of military documents that cover conflicts from the Revolutionary through the Vietnam Wars.

WWI Soldier Photograph Collection

archives.lib.state.ma.us/handle/2452/124230

This online collection contains nearly 8500 images of New England WWI soldiers, primarily from the 26th "Yankee" Division. This collection was originally donated to the library in 1935 by the Boston Globe, and many photographs include biographical and military information.



FamilySearch

Massachusetts Military Records familysearch.org/wiki/en/Massachusetts_Military_Records

A compiled list of online resources for those wanting to access MA military documents and published histories, from 1620-1972. This list contains links to both free and subscription databases.

Ancestry.com

Massachusetts Military search.ancestry.com/Places/US/Massachusetts (subscription required)

A compiled list of mainly 19th- and early 20th-century MA military documents and published histories available on Ancestry.com. Please note that Ancestry requires users to purchase a subscription before accessing resources on their website.

Fold3

fold3.com

(subscription required)

Fold3, part of Ancestry, contains military records, stories, photos, and personal documents from soldiers of the Revolutionary War up through recent conflicts. The site also includes non-military and international records. Please note that Fold3 requires users to purchase a subscription before accessing resources on their website.

Newspaper Databases

bpl.org/resources-types/newspapers/
(Boston Public Library eCard required)

Includes the *Boston Globe* (1872-present), *New York Times* (1851-2015), 19th-century and international newspapers. The BPL also has a large collection of newspapers on microfilm, if you can't find what you need online.

The *Boston Evening Transcript* (1851-1915), and the *Boston Daily Evening Transcript* (1866-1872) are freely accessible via the Google newspaper archive: news.google.com/newspapers

Resources in the Library

WWI Soldier Card File

(Ms. Coll. 65)

Located in: Special Collections, Room 55

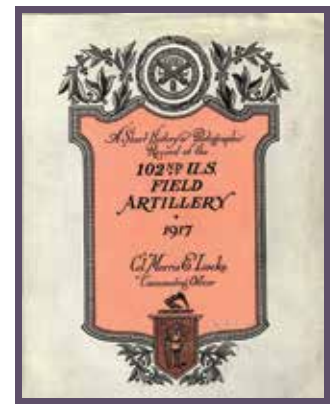
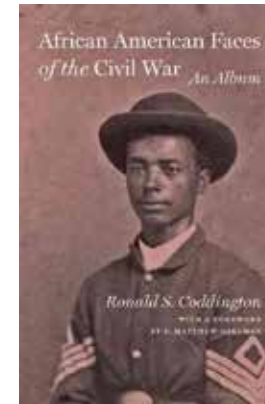
Contains over 40,000 index cards with various pieces of biographical and service information on New England WWI soldiers. Some cards include newspaper clippings, such as obituaries.

Col. Alfred S. Hartwell Papers

(Ms. Coll. 1)

Located in: Special Collections, Room 55

This collection contains numerous photographs of soldiers of the 44th, 54th & 55th regiments of the Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War. Also includes a roster of the 44th Regiment.



Published and Archival Material

Located in: Room 341 and Room 55

The State Library's collections contain many published local and general military histories, especially on the Civil War and WWI. Check out the library's online catalog for more information: state.cwmars.org/eg/opac/home

The library also has some archival collections that may not yet be included in the online catalog. If you have any questions about our archival holdings and how they can help you with your research, please contact our Special Collections Department at special.collections@mass.gov